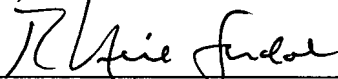


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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R. Neil Sudol

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) : Naomi L. NAKAO
SERIAL NO. : 10/687,177
FILED : 10/16/2003
FOR : Endoscope with Open Channels
GROUP ART UNIT : 3739
EXAMINER : Beverly Meindl Flanagan

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

S I R:

In response to the Office Action of October 18, 2006, applicant requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows. Pursuant to current practice, all pending claims, including original claims, previously presented claims, withdrawn claims, and currently amended claims, are presented below. Canceled claims are indicated as being canceled. Underlining indicates additions to the specification and claims, while strikethrough or double brackets indicate deletions.